

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mirut P. Dalal on 28 August 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

5. (Currently Amended) A system for de-interleaving audio information with static and dynamic buffers, the method comprising:
a first static memory device;
a de-interleaving engine;
a second static memory device;
a dynamic memory device; and
an audio decoder, whereby interleaved first audio channel information is written into the first static memory device, de-interleaved by the de-interleaving engine, written into the second static memory device, and temporarily stored in the dynamic memory device[[.]];

wherein the interleaved first audio channel information is overwritten in the first static memory device by interleaved second audio channel information, the interleaved second audio channel information is de-interleaved by the de-interleaving engine, and the de-interleaved second audio channel information is written to the second static memory device[.]; and

wherein the interleaved second audio channel information in the first static memory device is overwritten by the de-interleaved first audio channel information from the dynamic memory device.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim [7] 5, wherein the de-interleaved first and second audio channel information is decoded by the audio decoder.

12. (Currently Amended) An application specific integrated circuit for de-interleaving audio information, the circuit comprising:

a first static memory device operatively connected to a de-interleaving engine;
a second static memory device also operatively connected to the de-interleaving engine;

a dynamic memory device operatively connected to the first and second static memory devices; and

an audio decoder operatively connected to the first and second static memory devices and the dynamic memory device, whereby interleaved first audio channel information is written into the first static memory device, de-interleaved by the de-interleaving engine, written into the second static memory device, and temporarily stored in the dynamic memory device[.];

wherein the interleaved first audio channel information is overwritten in the first static memory device by interleaved second audio channel information, the interleaved second audio channel information is de-interleaved by the de-interleaving engine, the de-interleaved second audio channel information is written to the second static memory device[.]; and

wherein the interleaved second audio channel information in the first static memory device is overwritten by the de-interleaved first audio channel information from the dynamic memory device.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) The circuit according to claim [14] 12, wherein the de-interleaved first and second audio channel information is decoded by the audio decoder.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1 – 5, 8 – 12 and 15 – 18 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1, 5 and 12 are not explicitly taught nor made obvious by the prior art for the reasons set forth in Applicant's Appeal Brief filed 17 June 2009.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Drawings

New corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in this application because the drawings do not conform to U.S. practice. Applicant is advised to employ the services of a competent patent draftsperson outside the Office, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office no longer prepares new drawings. The corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The requirement for corrected drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ANDREW C. FLANDERS whose telephone number is (571)272-7516. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis Kuntz can be reached on (571) 272-7499. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Andrew C Flanders/
Patent Examiner
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